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# Weekly Special Report



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### Assistant Secretary-Designate Frazer Addresses African Conflict Resolution, Security

By Jim Fisher-Thompson  
Washington File Staff  
Writer

as U.S. ambassador to  
South Africa impressed  
upon her the need to cre-

staffs helping to promote  
U.S. policies and inter-  
ests overseas.

Washington -- Ambassador Jendayi Frazer, whom President Bush has named to be the next assistant secretary of state for African affairs, said her focus in her new job would be on conflict resolution, fighting the war on global terror -- and safeguarding the thousands of people working at American embassies on the continent.

Frazer told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, meeting July 22 to confirm her appointment, that her recent job



Ambassador Jendayi Frazer

ate a safe environment  
for the officials and their

The former University of Denver and Harvard professor worked in the White House as an Africa expert before being named by President Bush to be ambassador to South Africa a year ago.

If confirmed by the full Senate, Frazer told Committee Chairman Richard Lugar (Republican of Indiana), she will strive to safeguard the lives of U.S. citizens overseas. "My most important responsibility is pro-

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### Economic Growth Primary Mission of Foreign Aid, Natsios Says

By Susan Ellis  
Washington File Staff  
Writer

Washington -- "Unless foreign aid contributes to economic growth, it is failing to achieve its primary mission," U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Ad-

ministrator Andrew Natsios told the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) Forum in Dakar, Senegal, July 20.

He said that a significant part of USAID's work has focused on building capacity in government and civil society, stabilizing

financial systems, and promoting exports and trade.

"Without trade, there can be no sustained economic growth. Without economic growth, there will be no increase in tax revenues to support im-

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## Assistant Secretary-Designate Frazer Addresses African Conflict . . .

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protecting Americans abroad," she said.

She plans to accomplish that task, she told lawmakers, by "working with [the Office of] Diplomatic Security and General Williams [director] at the Overseas Buildings Office [responsible for hardening U.S. missions against terrorist attacks]."

The goal, she said, is "to ensure the safety and security of the approximately 12,700 USG [U.S. government] officials and locally engaged staff serving at the 47 posts in sub-Saharan Africa."

Senator Lugar, who has long taken an interest in development issues on the continent, said he believed Frazer would be good for the job at the State Department because "you've been on the

ground as ambassador," providing a "searchlight" on issues.

As she did when she was Africa adviser at the National Security Council, Frazer said, "I will continue to back African conflict mediation and strengthen African capacity to carry out support operations."

In that regard, Frazer told the committee, "I will ensure that the African Contingency Operations and Training Assistance [ACOTA] program receives the necessary guidance, oversight, and resources to contribute to Africa's stability."

Emphasizing military training partnerships, she added, "I will also, if confirmed, work to strengthen the East African Counterterrorism and the Trans-Saharan Counterterrorism Initiatives to provide a robust and multifaceted program to deny

terrorists safe haven, operational bases, and recruitment opportunities in Africa."

Asked to comment on the recent trip to South Africa by President Bush's wife Laura, Frazer told Senator Lugar: "It was indeed a wonderful visit. It was an opportunity for the first lady to meet with many young girls and women in Africa. In South Africa, the first lady really highlighted the question of women's empowerment and education and how it relates to the question of HIV/AIDS."

*(The Washington File is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>) ♦*

## Economic Growth Primary Mission of Foreign Aid, . . .

*(Continued from page 1)*

proved public services. Without growth and services, there will be no increase in wealth and reduction in poverty," Natsios said.

USAID works in various ways, "according to the needs of individual countries and available resources," Natsios said. "The AGOA Initiative that President Bush launched in 2000 is proving itself to be an historic milestone in this regard," he said, adding that "AGOA has played a significant part" in the extensive and growing ties between the United States and African countries.

U.S. agencies "have been working collaboratively ... out of three trade hubs in Africa -- in Ghana, Botswana, and Kenya -- and are designing and implementing programs that are building trade capacity and reducing trade barriers throughout the continent," he said.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, while attending the AGOA Forum, announced the addition of a fourth African trade hub in Dakar to give French-speaking countries the same trade assistance that is enjoyed by Anglophone countries. (See related article (<http://usinfo.state.gov/usinfo/Archive/2005/Jul/20-46058.html>).)

### **SUSTAINABLE GROWTH REQUIRES GOOD GOVERNANCE**

Achieving sustainable growth is fundamentally a matter of governance, Natsios said. "It requires, first and foremost, the building of democratic institutions responsive to the people and capable of helping them effectively meet their needs."

The proper role of government is to create the enabling environment in which productive enterprise takes place. And the proper role of foreign assistance is to help

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## Economic Growth Primary Mission of Foreign Aid, . . .

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governments and the business community to create a reasonable business climate for growth, he said.

Natsios emphasized the necessity of a vibrant market economy for effective growth to take place. "This is why U.S. trade policy and U.S. development assistance have mainstreamed trade into our economic development efforts," he explained. Working in complementary ways, he said, U.S. trade policies and development programs help countries expand their capacity to implement trade agreements and use trade as a tool to grow economically and to reduce poverty.

Toward this goal, USAID is looking for ways to promote export diversification, he said. The agency is also exploring the use of information technology in trade and investment and helping African countries remove policy and regulatory barriers to doing business and meet international requirements for animal and plant health inspection.

President Bush's videotaped announcement of a new five-year African Global Competitiveness Initiative, which builds on the AGOA work, provides an opportunity for USAID to collaborate with African businesses and farmers to expand their economic opportunities, Natsios said. "We look forward to identifying the key priorities that will improve the business climate

for trade and investment and strengthen the competitiveness of African businesses to trade with your neighbors, the region and the U.S.," he added.

USAID has been developing novel partnerships with the private sec-



**Andrew Natsios, USAID Administrator**

tor to support economic development, Natsios said. "One way we have done this is through our Global Development Alliances. In FY 2002-2004, USAID funded 105 alliances in Africa, with over \$315 million in USAID funding leveraging \$1.163 billion in partner contributions," he said.

The agency has also facilitated the development of other partnerships, he said, "that truly demon-

strate the power of cooperation over assistance and mutual benefit over charity in achieving growth and competitiveness."

Speaking about new developments in foreign aid that USAID has pioneered, Natsios said: "The more innovative of these programs, as at the Moi University Medical School in Kenya, pool both know-how and resources from our governments, private sectors, civil society, and the Diaspora.

"This is, quite simply, a new paradigm of foreign assistance that holds much promise for the future, as it marks the distance we have traveled from the past, when development assistance was largely characterized by government-to-government monetary transfers."

For additional information on the United States' efforts to assist the continent, see U.S. Aid to Africa ([http://usinfo.state.gov/af/africa/aid\\_to\\_africa.html](http://usinfo.state.gov/af/africa/aid_to_africa.html)).

(The Washington File is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>) ♦

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## Refugee Women, Children Must Be Protected in Sudan, Rice Says

By Helen I. Rouse  
Washington File Staff Writer

Washington -- The international community needs "to demand action" from the Sudanese government to reduce violence against women in its refugee camps, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said July 21 in an interview with CNN at Abu Shouk Camp in Al Fashar, Sudan.

"The stories are unbelievable, but they are true," Rice said, when asked about reports of women victimized by rape. "And so I said to them [the women in the camp] that we would try to make it better, that we would ... see what more could be done about the security."

On the plight of the camp's children, Rice told reporters traveling with her, "We've got to make every effort" to enable them to leave the camps "because these children need to grow up at home, not in a refugee camp."

Considering the likelihood that the Sudanese government will allow real improvements in the camps, Rice acknowledged to CNN's Andrea Koppel that the government does have "a credibility problem with the international community because there are promises that have not been kept."

But now, Rice said, "it is a new day in Sudan. ... They are forming a national unity government with people who also lived in terrible conditions at one time in this country. And so we have to support that process while insisting that the unified Sudanese government do everything that it can to

improve the situation."

Rice said she had just met with former rebel leader John Garang, who will be a part of the new government.

Rice also told the traveling press reporters that she had heard "that cooperation is better from the Khartoum government in terms of humanitarian access and the like."



**U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice is accompanied by Sudan's Foreign Minister Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail, left, upon her arrival at Khartoum airport, July 21, 2005.**

"But obviously," she said, "the real answer here is to move forward on the security issues and on the peace issues. It was very good to see the Rwandan soldiers coming in," she added, and she mentioned additional efforts by the African Union, NATO, and the European Union.

"So there is an international effort," she said. "I think we just have to ask how we can acceler-

ate that international effort so that these children can grow up someplace else."

Seeing the refugee camps firsthand has made a difference, Rice told Koppel. "I understand at a level that I think you can only understand by being here that it is, of course, a complex issue."

In the long run, she said, "these children need to be schooled in their homes. That means that there has to be somehow protection for these villages, the ability for a peace settlement." But in the short term, she said, "we have got to keep everything that we can going to the humanitarian assistance to these people and to improve the security."

Rice said she would talk to the African Union about how to get more forces into the area. "The Sudanese government said they would accept whatever numbers the AU could provide," she added.

"The united government of Sudan has a responsibility for this," she said, "and the international community is going to hold them to it."

"We have a big and complex task," she told ABC's Andrea Mitchell. "But I do think it's important to come here and remind people of the human beings that live here."

In addition to the CNN and ABC interviews and her interview with the traveling reporters, Rice was also interviewed by National Public Radio and by NBC and CBS television. Transcripts (<http://www>).

*(Continued on page 5)*



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## U.S. Names New Special Representative to Sudan

The U.S. Department of State announced July 26 the appointment of Roger P. Winter as special representative of the deputy secretary of state for Sudan.

Winter was a member of the U.S. team that supported former Senator Jack Danforth in helping to negotiate the Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed in January that ended a civil war in Sudan that raged for two decades. He has been involved in humanitarian and conflict issues in Sudan for 25 years, most recently as assistant administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance. In that capacity, he also helped negotiate the April cease-fire agreement for Darfur.

Following is the text of the announcement:

(begin text)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Office of the Spokesman  
July 26, 2005

STATEMENT BY SEAN MCCORMACK, SPOKESMAN

Roger P. Winter Appointed Special Representative for Sudan

The Department of State an-

nounces the appointment of Roger P. Winter as Special Representative of the Deputy Secretary of State for Sudan. Mr. Winter's appointment reflects the high priority this Administration attaches to halting the violence in Darfur and supporting implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) signed January 9. Mr. Winter will be responsible for advancing the achievement of America's goals for Sudan that were promoted during the Secretary's visit to Sudan last week and during the Deputy Secretary's three visits to Khartoum and Darfur in April, June and July.



Roger P. Winter

Since 2001, the United States played a leading role in peace negotiations between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement to end the North-South civil war that devastated Sudan for two decades. Mr. Winter was a member of the U.S. team that supported Senator Jack Danforth in helping to negotiate the CPA. He has been involved in humanitarian and conflict issues in Sudan for twenty-five years, most recently as Assistant Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance. In that capacity, he also helped negotiate the April 2004 cease-fire agreement for Darfur, which was an initial first political step toward

ending the carnage-taking place in that region. Mr. Winter's long involvement with the parties and familiarity with the events that have occurred in Sudan will enable him to engage with the new Government of National Unity and others to further U.S. diplomacy on Sudan and advise the Secretary and Deputy Secretary on policy related to Darfur and to Sudan.

(end text)

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### Refugee Women, Children Must . . .

(Continued from page 4)  
[state.gov/secretary/rm/2005/](http://state.gov/secretary/rm/2005/)) of the secretary's July 21 interviews are available on the State Department's Web site.

Rice traveled to Sudan following a stop at the fourth annual African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) Forum in Dakar, Senegal.

(The Washington File is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>) ♦

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## Nigeria Seeks U.S. Help in Promoting Development, Democracy

By Aviva Altmann  
Washington File Staff Writer

Washington -- America's partnership with Nigeria will help in the development of democracy and good governance, as well as alleviate the conditions that cause poverty, violence, and crime, Nigerian Vice President Atiku Abubakar said July 20, at a conference hosted by the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Washington.

The conference, entitled "Security and Governance in the Gulf of Guinea," introduced a report of findings and recommendations put together by the CSIS Gulf of Guinea Security Task Force and included a discussion on the need for a U.S. strategic approach to the gulf.

Addressing congressional staff members and officials from the State, Defense and Energy departments and Vice President Cheney's office, Abubakar said joining with the United States and the rest of the international community is "vital to [Nigeria's] success."

"With the strengthening of democracy, transparency and accountability, and zero tolerance of corruption," he said, "Nigeria, and indeed governments of the Gulf of Guinea states, can address the burning issues of poverty and deprivation that breed violence, organized crime, and the potential of terrorism within our borders and beyond."

The answer to bringing transparency and accountability to the Nigerian government is to have a partnership with the United States, Abubakar said. He emphasized the

need for free and fair elections, ensuring "that elections themselves take place in a safe, secure atmosphere, free of intimidation, coercion, and illegal inducement." A U.S. alliance would "ensure ... the entire region improves and democracy is entrenched as a matter of urgency."

The Nigerian vice president acknowledged that the problems of poverty and corruption have previously plagued his country. He cited both as problems to democracy and called for U.S. assistance to end both.

"Wherever poverty endures, democracy is always in danger. Democracy, to our people, will remain meaningless if there continues to be no discernible and progressive improvement in their living conditions," Abubakar said.

In a country where 57 percent of the 130 million total population live in absolute poverty, more than 70 percent of the people live on less than \$1 per day, and less than 50 percent of the rural population has access to clean water, Nigeria qualifies as a low-income country, with a gross domestic product per capita of just over \$300.

"This level of poverty is unacceptable," the vice president asserted. Credible economic reform is already under way, according to Abubakar, as "there is a discernible new philosophy that the overall interests of the nation and our people are paramount, over and above the interests of a relatively small clique of corrupt bureaucrats in partnership with the private-sector speculators and rent seekers who have hitherto held the economy hostage."

He condemned the "echoes of corruption and theft of public resources," which he called "a threat to regional security, as it feeds into money laundering and violent crime." Calling the image of Nigerians as corrupt "shameful," the vice president insisted that the international community must now join with Nigeria to fight corruption to "a standstill."

### U.S. SUPPORT FOR SECURITY IN GULF OF GUINEA REGION

Navy Rear Admiral Frank Rennie, deputy commander of the U.S. European Command (EUCOM), which is responsible for military programs in most of Africa, told the gathering, "Our commitment to that [Gulf of Guinea] region remains a key element of our ongoing theater [region] security cooperation strategy."

"Our outstanding relationship with the leaders of this region is [also] a continuing source of pride for EUCOM. Indeed, Vice President Abubakar is one such leader. Together he and President [Olusegun] Obasanjo have undertaken the significant challenge of reforming their own country while continuing to build and strengthen [security] partnerships with others in the region," Rennie said.

Despite "difficulties and challenges that remain, Nigeria stands as a true leader in the Gulf of Guinea," said the admiral, adding "As we move forward, we continue to build relations with nations in the region, and EUCOM is very grateful to have a partner such as Nigeria." ♦

## U.N. Security Council Concerned About Zimbabwe Evictions

By Judy Aita  
Washington File United Nations  
Correspondent

United Nations -- The U.N. Security Council has asked for a briefing on Zimbabwe, United States Ambassador Anne Patterson said July 26.

"There's a worrisome humanitarian situation on the ground" that is "verging on a crisis situation" prompting several members of the 15-nation Security Council to ask for a meeting with U.N. Special Envoy to Zimbabwe Anna Tibaijuka, Patterson told journalists outside the Security Council's chambers.

After a two-week fact-finding visit to Zimbabwe, Tibaijuka reported July 22 that president Robert Mugabe's government's operation, Murambatsvina (Operation Restore Order), has wrought catastrophic upheaval to as many as 700,000 of Zimbabwe's poorest through indiscriminate evictions, housing and market demolitions, carrying out this campaign with disquieting indifference to human suffering.

The operation was carried out under the guise of slum clearance and was based on colonial-era Rhodesian law and policy that had been "a tool of segregation and social exclusion." She said that

Operation Restore Order breached both national and international human rights laws, thereby precipitating a humanitarian crisis.

The humanitarian consequences of Operation Restore Order are enormous, said Tibaijuka, who is also UN-HABITAT executive direc-

left out in the cold. Kids can't go to school. It's verging on a crisis situation. The council should at least get more information and take action on it," the ambassador insisted.

The United Kingdom has formally requested that Tibaijuka brief the council. The council is expected to discuss the request to put Zimbabwe on the agenda when it meets July 27, Patterson said.

Even though the issue deals with a humanitarian situation, it "is totally appropriate for the Security Council," the ambassador added.

"There is room for reform in the U.N.'s consideration of these issues," Patterson added. "What is clear from this re-



**Vendors try to save their belongings set on fire by police forces in a state-sponsored drive to raze illegal homes and kiosks in urban slums in Epworth (Harare), Zimbabwe.**

port, in her report to Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

Patterson, who is acting U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations, said that "the situation is so unstable that it threatens neighboring countries. And we have just gotten reports...that people who cooperated with her (Tibaijuka) are now subject to retaliations."

"These people are the poorest of the poor. They've been displaced,

port is the humanitarian crisis and the appropriateness of Security Council review and, frankly, the massive violations of human rights that have been undertaken by the government."

*(The Washington File is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>) ♦*

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## U.S. House Renews Important Anti-terrorism Law

By Merle D. Kellerhals, Jr.  
Washington File Staff Writer

Washington -- The U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate Judiciary Committee approved extending all major provisions of the widely debated USA Patriot Act anti-terrorism law, though with differences.

The House voted 257-171 July 21 to make permanent 14 of 16 key provisions while extending the two remaining sections an additional 10 years.

The Senate Judiciary Committee approved its version of the law unanimously, but with greater restraints on the government's powers. And it voted to extend the same 14 provisions permanently, but to extend two others for only four years.

The full Senate is expected to begin debate in September after returning from its August recess.

"I commend the House for voting to reauthorize provisions of the Patriot Act that are set to expire this year," President Bush said July 21 in a statement issued by the White House. "The Patriot Act has enhanced information sharing between law enforcement and intelligence personnel, updated the law to adapt to changes in technology, and provided critical tools to investigate terrorists that have been used for years in cases against organized crime and drug dealers."

Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales praised the House action, saying it has once again provided law enforcement personnel "with critical tools in their efforts to combat terrorism and protect the

American people."

Because of strong bipartisan support, the measure should easily pass in the Senate, Gonzales said in a July 21 statement.

The anti-terrorism law, which Congress passed overwhelmingly in the wake of the September 11, 2001, attacks, expanded the government's surveillance and prosecutorial powers against suspected terrorists, their associates and financiers. Most of the law is permanent, though 16 provisions are set to expire at the end of December unless Congress renews them.

Bush asked Congress to renew all the provisions and to add a provision to allow law enforcement agencies to issue administrative subpoenas in terrorism cases.

Administrative subpoenas, which the FBI currently uses in cases involving drug trafficking and health care fraud, would allow federal agents to demand documents and other materials in terrorism investigations without a federal judge's approval.

FBI Director Robert Mueller told Congress in recent hearings that key sections of the Patriot Act permit intelligence and law enforcement agencies to share critical counterterrorism information.

Mueller said that the "current integrated approach, which grew from the Patriot Act's information sharing provisions ... allows [federal] agents to more openly work with other governmental agencies."

Before the Patriot Act, federal law limited how much information

law enforcement personnel and the intelligence community could share, he said, hampering effective intelligence investigations.

### LAW DOES NOT INFRINGE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES, GONZALES SAYS

Opponents of the provisions in the anti-terrorism law that widen intelligence-sharing want Congress to scale back or remove several provisions, fearing those provisions may infringe on individual civil liberties.

Gonzales maintained, however, that there has "not been one verified case of civil liberties abuse" since the law went into effect. "The Department of Justice has exercised care and restraint in the use of these important authorities, because we are committed to the rule of law."

Any differences between the House-passed version and a Senate measure would have to be resolved before final approval and the president's signature into law.

"The Patriot Act is a key part of our efforts to combat terrorism and protect the American people, and the Congress needs to send me a bill soon that renews the act without weakening our ability to fight terror," Bush said.

*(The Washington File is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>) ♦*



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## United States Coordinates with United Kingdom on Counterterrorism

By Merle D. Kellerhals, Jr.  
Washington File Staff Writer

Washington -- U.S. federal agents are working with British authorities as they deal with a continuing terrorist threat to London rail and bus passengers, a White House spokesman said July 22.

"The president ... received a couple of updates this morning: one earlier this morning and then one toward the end of his usual briefing this morning about the latest developments in London and the situation there," presidential spokesman Scott McClellan said.

On July 21, explosions struck the London subway system and a red double-decker bus at midday, but only one person was injured in what was characterized as a failed attempt to carry out a series of suicide bombings like those that occurred in London on July 7. In that attack, over 50 people were killed, including four terrorists, and nearly 700 were wounded, according to British authorities.

And on July 22, a man was shot by British police during a chase into one of the London subway stations, related to the attempted attacks the day before, authorities told the news media.

FBI officials and others "are working in close coordination with British authorities," McClellan said.

Francis Townsend, the president's homeland security adviser, has been in close contact with her counterpart in London, he said, and she has also kept the president informed of events in London.

"We continue to assist in any way that we can . . . U.S. au-

thorities have been providing assistance since the attacks of two weeks ago, and we continue to offer whatever help we can as they move forward on investigating these incidents," he said.

During a trip to Atlanta, Bush said "the people of Great Britain must understand how strongly America stands with them during these trying times. I'm confident, like our country, the citizens of that country will not be intimidated by thugs and assassins."

"We're not going to let anybody frighten us from our great love of freedom," the president said.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, speaking in Israel July 21, expressed confidence that Londoners would stand strong in the face of terrorism.

"The British people have impressed everyone with their strength and resolve and I am certain they will continue to do the same," she said.

At the State Department daily briefing July 21, deputy spokesman Adam Ereli said his reaction to hearing the news of the bombings was "shock, outrage, horror at yet another senseless and evil act." Americans "stand with our British friends and allies in response to this act. We will stand with them and work with them in dealing with this tragedy as we have in past tragedies," he said.

At the same time, U.S. homeland security officials said they have been reviewing terrorist threat levels almost daily since the July 7 terrorist bombing attacks in central London.

"Certainly, as we look at the threat level, we will factor in the information and intelligence we're receiving from the U.K., as well as information we're getting from other sources, as we consider what the right protective measures are," said Brian Besanceney, homeland security assistant secretary for public affairs, July 22.

The United States raised its threat alert level to orange, or "high" risk, on July 7 for all U.S. mass transit systems in direct response to the London suicide bombings. The rest of the United States remains at yellow, or "elevated" risk.

McClellan said July 21 "there is no plan at this time to change the alert level for our mass transit systems."

As a result of the threat-level changes and continuing threats in London, local U.S. law enforcement and transit police have been conducting increased patrols of subway, commuter rail and bus systems; heightened inspection and surveillance around transit facilities; and increased use of bomb-sniffing dogs.

New York transit officers began random searches of bags and packages brought into the city's vast subway system after the latest attempted bombings in London.

In Washington and outlying areas, Metro subway and bus system officials said its subway trains and buses are running normally, but on heightened alert. Increased police and security presence was seen on rail platforms and near bus exchanges throughout the Washington area. ♦

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## Head of Homeland Security Department Says More Changes Coming

Washington -- The secretary of the Department of Homeland Security says the newest U.S. Cabinet department has still more changes ahead.

Speaking at a Washington conference on excellence in government July 25, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff said a "second-stage review" of the agency -- which was amalgamated from 22 separate federal entities by the Bush administration in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks -- indicates the need for four additional steps:

Unify the department's intelligence function under a chief intelligence officer;

Unify the operations structure that must act on intelligence;

Plan and make policy in an integrated, departmentwide fashion rather than "simply assembling the policies of the individual components;" and

Place within one component all preparedness functions -- planning, training, exercising and grant-making -- in order to impose unity and comprehensiveness on those functions.

Chertoff laid out the department's guiding principles: to be results-oriented, network-focused and adaptable and to use risk management to manage priorities.

**RESULTS-ORIENTED:** "We have to measure our success in terms of the outcomes we produce," Chertoff said. Ordinary citizens don't care about process, he said; they

care about their safety while going about their daily lives.

**NETWORKED:** Successful government function today is not a matter of command and control, Chertoff said, but rather the ability



**Michael Chertoff**  
**Homeland Security Secretary**

to network with other government agencies -- in the United States, that means federal, state and local agencies -- and with the private sector.

**ADAPTABLE:** "We know the enemy adapts rapidly to change," Chertoff said, shifting in response to U.S. actions overseas. "[W]e have to be able to match that," he continued. What's needed, he said, is a Homeland Security culture that can change -- even urgently -- to meet new threats, new technology, and new assets that need protection.

**PRIORITIZED:** "[W]e cannot protect every single person against every single threat at every moment and in every place," Chertoff said. Given finite resources and personnel, he said, "We have to ... focus ourselves on those priorities which most demand our attention." That means, he said, the department must focus on risk in the context of consequences, vulnerability and threat.

"We do not want to have a fortress state," Chertoff said. Americans want a "secure" nation, not a "security" nation. That means competing factors of security and freedom must be weighed. The United States will lose the war against terrorism, he said, if it becomes a fortress or if it sacrifices things held dear for more protection.

"[W]e want to ... find that level of protection which addresses our greatest risks, but ... in a way that is consistent with the values that everybody in this country holds very dear," he said.

The full text (<http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=4683>) of Chertoff's remarks is available on Homeland Security Web site.

*(Distributed by the Bureau of International Information Programs, U. S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>) ♦*

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## Legal Scholar to Discuss Future of Supreme Court August 10



John Yoo

John Yoo, a law professor at the University of California at Berkeley and former deputy assistant attorney general in the Office of Legal Counsel at the U.S. Department of Justice, will be available online to answer questions about the future of the Supreme Court during a moderated Internet chat August 10.

The moderated Internet chat takes place at 1 p.m. EDT (1700 GMT) on Wednesday, August 10. To participate, you must register by sending an e-mail to [iipchat@state.gov](mailto:iipchat@state.gov) (mailto: [iipchat@state.gov](mailto:iipchat@state.gov)) before the be-

ginning of the chat so that login information can be sent to you. You are neither required nor encouraged to provide any personal information.

You may also submit questions in advance to [iipchat@state.gov](mailto:iipchat@state.gov) (mailto: [iipchat@state.gov](mailto:iipchat@state.gov)).

After receiving his law degree from Yale University, Yoo clerked for Judge Laurence H. Silberman of the U.S. Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia Circuit. He later served as general counsel of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee from 1995 to 1996 where he advised on constitutional issues and judicial nominations. Yoo also clerked for Justice Clarence Thomas of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Besides being a professor at the University of California, Yoo is a visiting scholar at the American Enterprise Institute. He also has

been a visiting professor at the University of Chicago and the Free University of Amsterdam and has received research fellowships from the University of California at Berkeley, the Olin Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation.

Yoo's areas of expertise include foreign affairs, national security and constitutional law. His new book, *War, Peace, and the Constitution*, will be published in 2005 by the University of Chicago Press.

His complete biography and links to recent articles he has authored are available on Yoo's Web site (<http://www.law.berkeley.edu/faculty/yooj/#Recent>).

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## United Nations To Monitor Use, Abuse of Child Soldiers

By Judy Aita  
Washington File United Nations  
Correspondent

United Nations -- Deeply concerned over the continuing use of child soldiers, the U.N. Security Council July 26 set up a system for monitoring, reporting on and punishing groups or nations who abuse or use children in wars.

Olara Otunnu, U.N. special envoy for children and armed conflict, said that "for the first time, the U.N. is establishing a formal, structured, and detailed compliance regime of this kind. This brings together all the key elements we have been developing in the last few years to ensure accountability and compliance on the ground."

"It is the first time saying it is not enough to condemn. It isn't enough to have rules and standards and resolutions and conventions. We must set up in place a system that can deliver on compliance," Otunnu said.

Reminding nations of their responsibility "to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other egregious crimes perpetrated against children," the Security Council instructed Secretary-General Kofi Annan to set up "without delay" a mechanism "to collect and provide timely, objective, accurate and reliable information on the recruitment and use of child soldiers in violation of applicable international law and on other violations and abuses committed against children affected by armed conflict."

In addition to recruiting child soldiers, the crimes include killing and maiming of children, rape and other sexual violence, abduction and forced displacement, denial of humanitarian aid to children, attacks against schools and hospitals, trafficking, forced labor, and all forms of slavery.



A child soldier in Liberia

The resolution, adopted unanimously, sets up monitoring in Burundi, Cote d'Ivoire, Congo Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia and Sudan. The monitoring is expected to expand in 2006 to Colombia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Uganda.

The mechanism will monitor violations by both governments and insurgents. National institutions, nongovernmental organizations and U.N. peacekeeping missions are also to participate in the process, the council said. The secretary-general is to report to the Security Council and General Assembly; however, other U.N. bodies

may also consider the reports.

The council said that it will consider imposing "targeted and graduated measures, such as . . . a ban on the export and supply of small arms and light weapons and of other military equipment and military assistance" on violators.

The Security Council also said that it was concerned by the lack of progress by offending parties listed in the secretary-general's report on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Children (<http://www.un.org/rights/introduc.htm>) released in February. Of the more than 40 groups named are the Jingaweit in Sudan; Forces armees des forces nouvelles (FAFN) in Cote d'Ivoire; Forces armees de la Republic democratique du Congo (FARDC) and Force democratique de liberation du Rwanda in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia in Colombia; Karen National Liberation Army and Tatmadaw Kyi in Myanmar; Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist in Nepal; Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam in Sri Lanka; and Lord's Resistance Army in Uganda.

The U.N. says that over the last ten years, more than 2 million children have been killed during armed conflict and another 6 million disabled or injured.

*(The Washington File is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>) ♦*



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## Trade Negotiators Gather in Geneva To Take Stock of WTO Round

By Wendy Lubetkin  
Washington File Special Correspondent

Geneva -- Trade negotiators are trying to find additional common ground in key areas of World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations before an August recess.

The objective of the WTO meetings in Geneva, according to a senior U.S. trade official, who spoke on background, is to identify additional areas of convergence and "set a platform" for the negotiations that will start up again in September under Pascal Lamy, the next WTO director-general.

At issue is progress on the long-stalled negotiating round, formally called the Doha Development Agenda. Negotiators are preparing for the hard work leading up to their trade ministers' WTO meeting in Hong Kong in December with a view toward completing the round a year later.

July 27 and July 29 meetings of the General Council, one of the WTO's principal decision-making bodies, should pinpoint the key issues that need to be addressed immediately in September "so that there is time to prepare for the Hong Kong ministerial," the U.S. trade official said.

"We don't want to leave a lot of difficult decisions for a very short meeting in Hong Kong among 148 ministers," he said. "So the General Council needs to set us up in the best possible way so that we all come back knowing what we have to focus on and can do that in the fewer than three months we have before Hong Kong."

The official cautioned not to ex-

pect major breakthroughs at the July 27 and July 29 meetings, but emphasized there is a need to make "as much incremental progress as possible."

"We are very committed, [President Bush] is very committed, to successfully concluding the Doha negotiations by the end of 2006," he said. "That's what all of our efforts here are about."

The General Council meetings are focusing on four core Doha areas: agriculture, what is called nonagricultural market access (NAMA) -- basically industrial tariffs and non-tariff barriers, services, and development.

The key issue at this stage, he said, is market access in agriculture. An important development, he said, was that the United States and other countries that had been advocating what is called "Swiss formula" agricultural tariff cuts have since agreed to work on a "middle ground working hypothesis."

A middle ground approach could take as its starting point a proposal put forward by the G-20 group of developing countries at the "mini-ministerial" meeting held in Dalian, China, July 12-13, the U.S. official said. Canada and Australia have put forward other ideas "that could work with that same structure," he added.

Real progress on agricultural market access will depend on movement "from the other end of the spectrum, primarily the European Union, but also others in the G-10," he said.

"Our president has been absolutely clear. He's challenged eve-

rybody to get rid of trade-distorting subsidies," the U.S. official said. "But the point here is that it has to be everybody, not just the U.S."

"So to say that we are spending one third of what the EU is and that somehow we have to make yet another concession at this stage, unilaterally, on domestic support -- that doesn't really make sense," he said.

An alternate proposal put forward by Argentina, India and Brazil "simply does not fit the bill," the official said. That proposal, which would incorporate a country's average bound tariff rate, he said, "perpetuates an imbalance where countries that have done the least in the past continue to do less in the future."

Another key area of the NAMA negotiations concerns unbound tariffs -- customs duties that are not already capped at a maximum level through previous international trade agreements or unilateral commitments. The goal is to ensure that all tariffs or industrial tariffs are bound as are all agricultural tariffs.

Current discussions focus on the level at which those tariffs should be bound and the means to achieve reduction and binding.

The official said support is growing for what is called a "nonlinear" uplift, which would add an absolute percentage to a country's applied tariff rate and then subject the higher rate to a tariff reduction formula.

"That is an area where we think we could make progress this week," he said. ♦

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## Senate Approves Higher Spending for Fight Against HIV/AIDS

By Bruce Odessey  
Washington File Staff Writer

Washington -- The Senate has passed a foreign aid bill for the fiscal year beginning October 1 that would allocate more money for the fight against HIV/AIDS and less money for the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) than the Bush administration requested.

By a 98-1 vote July 20, the Senate approved foreign spending of about \$22.2 billion, slightly below the administration total request of \$22.8 billion. The House of Representatives voted June 29 to approve \$20.3 billion.

For the bill to become law, a final version must be passed by the House and Senate and signed by the president. House-Senate negotiations to achieve a final version are unlikely to begin before Congress' traditional August recess.

As the House did, the Senate approved less money than the administration requested for the MCA, the foreign aid program aimed at rewarding developing countries that rule justly, invest in their people and promote economic freedom.

The report accompanying the Senate Appropriations Committee's draft of the spending bill said this was partly because only \$15 million of the \$2.5 billion approved in previous years has been spent by the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), which administers the MCA.

The Senate approved \$1.8 billion for MCC, \$312 million above spending approved for the current year but less than the \$3 billion

requested; the House approved \$1.75 billion.

"While recognizing that the Corporation has begun to reach agreement on compacts, the MCC plan to sign up to four compacts per quarter through the end of fiscal year 2006 is overly optimistic," the report said.

### FUNDING FOR HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVES

The Senate would provide \$3 billion to countries to fight HIV/AIDS, \$303 million above the president's request; the House passed \$2.7 billion. The Senate total includes \$2 billion for the Global HIV/AIDS Initiative and \$500 million for a U.S. contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

An amendment approved by the Senate July 20 would add \$100 million to the Global Fund by subtracting that amount from economic support for Iraq. Democratic Senator Richard Durbin, a co-sponsor of the amendment, said that, of more than \$18 billion previously approved by Congress for Iraq relief and reconstruction, nearly \$12 billion remains unspent.

The House's version would provide no money for Iraq although the administration had requested \$459 million.

Senators approved \$1.7 billion for children's survival and health programs, \$1.7 billion for development assistance and \$400 million for disaster and famine aid.

The Senate bill would provide \$450 million for family planning and reproductive health. As in

previous years, House and Senate negotiators must resolve differences over controversial abortion language on the issue. The House version would affirm what is called the "Mexico City policy" prohibiting U.S. foreign aid spending to foreign organizations that provide abortions or advice about abortion. The Senate version would repeal that policy.

Senators approved only \$50 million for what are called transition initiatives -- money to bridge the gap between emergency relief and long-term development programs -- \$275 million less than the administration requested.

The Senate would provide \$107.5 million, as requested by the administration, for the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The House version would provide no money for that program established to help poor countries implement international conventions on support conservation and curtail pollution. House Republicans argued that the GEF should stop resisting reforms intended to measure performance of grants.

### BILL WOULD LINK AID TO CO-OPERATION ON EXTRADITION

The Senate approved 85-13 an amendment reportedly opposed by the administration that would deny most foreign aid to countries that refuse to extradite a person charged with certain crimes in the United States. The House version includes a similar provision.

At issue is Nicaragua's refusal to extradite a suspect in the 2002 murder of a U.S. Marine in Washington.

*(Continued on page 16)*

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## African Efforts Against AIDS Need Training, Infrastructure Help

The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), a \$15 billion, five-year initiative to fight HIV/AIDS in the 15 most affected countries, is on its way to reaching 2 million people by 2008, says Randall Tobias, the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator at the Department of State.

"The objectives of this program in five years are to get 2 million people on anti-retroviral drug treatment to prevent 7 million infections that otherwise would have occurred and to provide care for 10 million people," Tobias said in a planeboard press briefing en route to Kigali, Rwanda.

Tobias has been traveling with first lady Laura Bush on her July 12 -14 trip to South Africa, Tanzania and Rwanda, the goal of which is to show the United States' dedication to fighting HIV/AIDS and to the empowerment women in Africa.

Tobias emphasized the importance of integrating sustainability into the African medical system because "this can't be about America doing this forever; it really needs to be about giving these countries the capabilities they need, the training and the infrastructure to take over more and more responsibility themselves."

For more information, see AIDS in Africa ([http://usinfo.state.gov/gi/global\\_issues/hiv\\_aids/aids\\_in\\_africa.html](http://usinfo.state.gov/gi/global_issues/hiv_aids/aids_in_africa.html)).

Following is the transcript of Tobias' remarks:

(begin transcript)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the First Lady  
July 14, 2005

PRESS BRIEFING BY RANDALL TOBIAS, U.S. GLOBAL AIDS COORDINATOR

Aboard Mrs. Bush's Plane  
En route Kigali, Rwanda  
1:00 P.M. (L)

AMBASSADOR TOBIAS: By way of a little background, in the President's 2003 State of the Union address, he announced a \$15 billion, five-year program to focus on HIV/AIDS. It is the largest commitment ever made by any nation for addressing an international disease state.

We are focusing on programs in 123 countries around the world, but a special focus on 15 of those countries that together account for about 50 percent of the infections in the world. Twelve of those 15 countries are in Africa. So a major focus of our attention is in Africa.

The objectives of this program in five years are to get 2 million people on anti-retroviral drug treatment to save 7 million infections that otherwise would have occurred, and to provide care for 10 million people - "care" defined as people who don't yet need drug treatment, people who are at the end of life, and, very importantly, orphans, who are just a huge, huge issue here.

To put the treatment number in some perspective, at the time the President made this announcement at the beginning of 2003, there were probably about 4.1 million people in sub-Saharan Africa who under ideal conditions would have been on drug therapy. Rather than 4.1 people being on treatment, the

actual number was about 50,000. As of March of this year, we are supporting treatment for 235,000, and we're on a trajectory to reach the 2 million objective by the end of five years. The biggest obstacle is getting infrastructure built, and you have seen some indications of the problems.

But, as an example, Mozambique, one of the poorest countries in the world, has 18 million people and 650 doctors in the entire country. So the need to build clinics, to build health care staff and some of the management skills that are needed to manage the scale of these kinds of programs are all parts of what we're doing.

Congress appropriated \$2.4 billion in the first year, 2004; \$2.8 billion in the second year, 2005. We have asked for, and I expect to get, \$3.2 billion in the third year. So we're on the trajectory to fully fund the \$15 billion by the end - I'm sorry?

Q: What was the request figure for 2006? I couldn't hear you.

AMBASSADOR TOBIAS: 2006 was \$3.2 billion. So it's \$2.4 billion, \$2.8 billion, \$3.2 billion, so that's on the trajectory to get to the \$15 billion.

So what you hear referred to as the acronym PEPFAR, and you've heard that a lot I think on this trip, is the President's Emergency Plan for Aids Relief.

With that, I'd be happy to answer any questions.

Q: The \$15 billion, you expect it will be by when that you'll have it

*(Continued on page 16)*

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## African Efforts Against AIDS Need Training . . .

(Continued from page 15)  
fully appropriated?

AMBASSADOR TOBIAS: The \$15 billion? That will be by the end of 2008, which is the fifth year of the program. It began in fiscal year 2004.

Q: Is any money going to be used to build clinics, as well? Or is it only - you talked about the list of what the money is going to be used for.

AMBASSADOR TOBIAS: Yes, we're building clinics, we're training doctors and nurses and lab technicians. The end game here has to be sustainability. We have to - this can't be about America doing this forever; it really needs to be about giving these countries the capabilities they need, the training the infrastructure to take over more and more responsibility

themselves.

Q: The question - if you say as of March of this year you're supporting treatment for 235,000 people -

AMBASSADOR TOBIAS: Yes.

Q: In Africa, or throughout the world?

AMBASSADOR TOBIAS: That figure is throughout the world. It's 230,000 of those are in Africa. So it's essentially all of them.

Q: So what's your plan for the following -

AMBASSADOR TOBIAS: The plan is to get to 2 million people by the end of the five years.

Q: By 2008.

AMBASSADOR TOBIAS: By 2008. And we're very much on the trajectory to reach that. So I'm very pleased with the progress that everybody has made.

Q: The 2 million people would be worldwide?

AMBASSADOR TOBIAS: The 2 million people are in the 15 focus countries, and those are 12 countries in Africa, plus Haiti and Guyana in the Caribbean, and Vietnam is the 15th focus country.

Thank you all.

(end transcript)

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## Senate Approves Higher Spending for Fight . . .

(Continued from page 14)

"If Nicaragua refuses to turn this murder suspect over to the U.S. authorities so he can be brought to justice in the United States, where this heinous crime occurred, then Nicaragua should not receive any financial aid from the United States," said Republican Senator Saxby Chambliss, sponsor of the amendment.

Chambliss said the provision could apply to a number of other countries as well -- including Mexico and Costa Rica -- that might refuse extradition of a person who could face the death penalty or life

imprisonment in the United States. Jordan.

The Senate bill would provide economic assistance of \$495 million for Egypt, \$240 million for Israel and \$250 million for Jordan, all equal to the amounts requested by the administration. As in the House version, the Senate version would require \$50 million of the aid to Egypt go to education; the House would also require Egypt to spend \$50 million on democracy building.

The Senate would spend \$4.6 billion on foreign military financing, including an increase of \$210 million over the current year for aid to

Altogether the Senate would provide \$1.3 billion for international financial institutions, about \$66 million less than the administration requested.

(The Washington File is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>) ♦



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## AIDS Linked to National Security, New Study Says

By Judy Aita  
Washington File United Nations  
Correspondent

New York -- The HIV/AIDS pandemic is affecting the security of states worldwide by weakening economies, government structures, military and police forces and other social structures, according to a new report entitled HIV and National Security: Where are the Links?

The report, authored by Laurie Garrett, senior fellow for global health at the Council on Foreign Relations, was released July 18.

The scale and geographic scope of the HIV pandemic has only two parallels in recorded history, Garrett said: the "Spanish" flu epidemic that claimed 50 million lives worldwide in 1918-19, and the 14th Century Black Death, which killed more than one-third of the European population in 18 months.

"The only difference is the black death meted out its impact in one and a half to two years in Europe, while HIV -- by the very biological nature of the organism and how it affects the human body -- is doing so over a period of decades," Garrett said at a press conference releasing the report.

Many leading academic investigators, policy analysts, and government officials have disputed the link between HIV/AIDS and a nation's security, Garrett said, in part due to a tendency to define national security in strictly military terms.

Nevertheless, she said, security concerns are integral in dealing with the HIV/AIDS crisis for both poor and wealthy nations, but for different reasons.

One problem facing poor nations is that if they are unable to provide

Some countries with high infection rates "haven't even begun to imagine the economic, social and military impacts, social stability impacts of their epidemic," Garrett said.

"For example, in Russia . . . the death burden from AIDS hasn't really happened yet. So the real power of what this epidemic will mean to Russia, to Ukraine, the Baltic states where we have the most explosive epidemic at this time hasn't yet been felt."

The impact of the epidemic in South Africa, with an infection rate in adults of between 20 and 25 percent, "has yet to be felt" as well, she said.

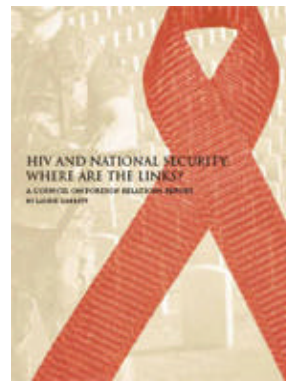
In wealthy nations, politicians should understand that funding for retroviral treatment in poor countries requires long-term commitment. "Once you put people on anti-retrovirals you're committed" to them for the rest of their lives, she said.

A donor country's withdrawal or decrease of funding for HIV/AIDS treatment could become a security issue if anger were to rise among affected populations, she said.

Garret also discussed the analysis of HIV strains, which she compared to DNA fingerprinting used in forensic investigations. Refinements in HIV analysis now allow scientists to identify changes in the evolution of the virus dating back to the earliest sample found in the Congo in 1959. The tech-



Laurie Garrett



Cover of the report

universal access to anti-retroviral therapy they may, out of desperation, provide treatment only to certain "trained elites" such as military leaders or high-level civil servants.

Doing so could undermine the state's authority, Garrett said. "We feel there is a very serious probability that you will see societal angst rise in the most highly afflicted societies unless as a global community we can begin to broaden access to anti-HIV drugs in a speedy fashion."

### EPIDEMIC STILL IN EARLY STAGE, AUTHOR SAYS

Garrett stressed that countries are now at the beginning of the epidemic. "The real devastating impact of the epidemic hasn't happened yet," she said, noting that between 38 and 42 million people worldwide are currently infected with the virus.

*(Continued on page 21)*

## Scientists Improve Nutrition Value of Critical African Crop

International scientists are at work on a multimillion-dollar project to improve the nutritional value of cassava, the primary food source for more than 250 million Africans, according to a July 11 press release from Agricultural Research Service (ARS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Cassava is the most important crop in Africa and the fourth most important crop in the world, but its roots are low in protein and several micronutrients.

Ohio State University is leading the five-year, \$7.5-million, 10-institution cassava improvement project, BioCassava Plus.

Research groups include the University of Bath in the United Kingdom, Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical in Colombia, and Zentrum-ETH in Switzerland.

The project is using biotechnology to increase the plant's levels of zinc, iron, protein and vitamins A and E and make it resistant to a plant virus. Consumers who eat the enhanced root will receive a complete range of macro- and micronutrients from cassava alone.

After improved cassava varieties are developed in the United States, they will be grown and tested for production and nutrient content under field conditions in Africa and released to breeding programs.

Field trials will be carried out at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture and the National Root Crop Research Institute in Nigeria, the Kenyan Agricultural Research Institute and the University of Puerto Rico.

Human feeding trials to determine the bioavailability of nutrients will be conducted at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.



**These Ghanaian women are peeling cassava, the basic food staple for more than 40 percent of the people in Africa**



**Cassava**

Additional information (<http://www.ars.usda.gov/main/main.htm>) about the ARS is available at the USDA Web site.

Text of the USDA press release follows:

(begin text)

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Agricultural Research Center  
Press release, July 11, 2005

### ARS to be Part of New Team Improving Cassava

Cassava, one of the most important food crops in Africa, is about to undergo an extreme makeover in a multimillion-dollar project that will include an Agricultural Research Service scientist as part of the interdisciplinary team.

ARS molecular biologist Edgar B. Cahoon's special responsibility will be increasing the cassava root's vitamin A and E content.

Cahoon, a member of the ARS Plant Genetics Research Unit, is located at the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center in St. Louis, Mo., where he collaborates with center scientists to enhance crop plants.

Ohio State University is leading the \$7.5-million, 10-institution cassava improvement project, called "BioCassava Plus," under the direction of Richard Sayre. The grant runs for five years.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation selected BioCassava Plus for one of the foundation's \$450-million, "Grand Challenges in Global Health" program grants as an innovative solution to a global nutrition issue.

Cassava is the primary food source for more than 250 million Africans -- about 40 percent of the continent's population. It is the most important crop in Africa, the

*(Continued on page 21)*

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# NASA Space Shuttle Discovery Heads to Space Station

By Cheryl Pellerin  
Washington File Staff Writer

Washington – Space shuttle Discovery blasted off without problems into blue Florida skies July 26, the first shuttle to fly since the 2003 Columbia accident, and 13 days after the first launch attempt.

The historic mission is the 114th space shuttle flight and the 17th U.S. flight to the International Space Station. The STS-114 mission is scheduled to last 12 days, with a planned landing August 7 at Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

"Okay Eileen, our long wait may be over," said shuttle launch director Mike Leinbach to shuttle Commander Eileen Collins.

"On behalf of the millions of people who believe so deeply in what we do, good luck, godspeed and have a little fun out there," Leinbach said.

Senior NASA managers gave the green light for a launch attempt after a July 24 meeting at Kennedy Space Center to discuss recent problems related to a liquid hydrogen fuel sensor inside the external fuel tank that indicated a low fuel-level reading.

The problems caused the shuttle's scheduled July 13 launch to be postponed. The sensor protects an orbiter's main engines by triggering them to shut down if fuel runs unexpectedly low.

For the past 11 days, hundreds of engineers across the country worked around the clock to troubleshoot the sensor system issue. Prior to the launch there no longer was any sign of what proved to be an intermittent sensor malfunction.

During their mission to the space station, Discovery's seven-member crew will test and evaluate new safety procedures for the shuttle. Among the many safety improvements are a redesigned external

tive Australian Andy Thomas.

Collins was the first female space shuttle commander. She and her crew launched aboard space shuttle Columbia on the STS-93 mission in July 1999.

Crew members Robinson and Noguchi will exit the shuttle three times on spacewalks. The first spacewalk will demonstrate repair techniques on the shuttle's protective tiles.



**A photo taken from the payload bay of the space shuttle Discovery shows the orbiter's tail and robot arm**

During the second spacewalk, they'll replace a failed control moment gyroscope, which helps keep the station properly oriented. During the third, they'll install the external stowage platform, a sort of space shelf for holding spare parts during space station construction.

This Discovery mission also marks the third trip of the multi-purpose logistics module named Raffaello to the space station. Raffaello is essentially a

moving van that transports supplies to the orbital outpost.

As Discovery lifted off from Kennedy Space Center, the U.S. North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and U.S. Northern Command (NORTHCOM) were on duty.

Military air, land and sea assets were in place to provide security and, in an emergency, search-and-rescue assistance, according to

*(Continued on page 20)*

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## NASA Space Shuttle Discovery Heads to . . .

(Continued from page 19)

Mike Kucharek, media chief for NORAD.

NORAD is responsible for air defense of North American airspace; NORTHCOM plans, organizes and executes homeland defense and civil support missions.

The U.S. Defense Department has a long history of supporting manned space flights, dating back to Project Mercury in the early 1960s. The department's capabilities, from surveillance assets to space systems to search-and-rescue units, make it a valuable partner to NASA, Kucharek said.

Speaking from the Kennedy Space Center, Kucharek said NORAD enforced temporary flight restrictions over the shuttle and its path. Six Air Force F-15 aircraft enforced a temporary no-fly zone around the center's launch pad 39B.

For the millions of potential viewers of the STS-114 mission, on July 12 NASA signed agreements with Yahoo! of California and Akamai Technologies of Massachusetts to help bring the space shuttle return-to-flight mission to Internet users through the NASA Web portal.

Yahoo! is providing live streaming of NASA TV mission coverage in Windows Media format and will be the only other official online host of NASA TV footage beyond the NASA Web site. Akamai is streaming NASA TV for RealPlayer and will deliver all other Web content during the mission.

With a 12-day mission that includes three spacewalks, NASA expects to deliver more data to us-

ers than it has for anything but the Mars Exploration Rovers, which are still going strong after 18 months on the mysterious red planet.

The STS-114 mission comes after a 2.5-year initiative to reinforce the orbiters and improve the safety of the space shuttle fleet after the loss of space shuttle Columbia (STS-107) and its seven astronauts.

The Columbia mission lifted off January 16, 2003, for a 17-day science mission featuring micro-gravity experiments. On re-entering the atmosphere February 1, the orbiter exploded because of a hole made during launch by falling foam from the external tank that damaged panels on the underside of the left wing.

The orbiter and its seven crew members were lost about 15 minutes before Columbia was scheduled to touch down at Kennedy Space Center.

To show support for the STS-114 crew and those who supported the return to flight effort, the families of the astronauts who died on Columbia sent NASA a statement July 12.

"As the families of Apollo 1 and Challenger before us, we grieve deeply but know the exploration of space must go on," the statement read. "We hope we have learned, and will continue to learn, from each of these accidents, so that we will be as safe as we can be in this high risk endeavor."

A limited number of flights remain for the space shuttles, which are scheduled to be retired in

2010.

On July 12, NASA authorized two eight-month contracts, each worth about \$28 million, one to Lockheed Martin Corp. and the other to the team of Northrop Grumman Corp. and the Boeing Co., to support a July 2006 review of engineering systems for the agency's new Crew Exploration Vehicle (CEV).

NASA eventually will choose one industry team to build the CEV. Originally, the agency planned to select a single team in 2008, but to reduce or eliminate the time between the shuttle's retirement in 2010 and the first CEV flight, NASA will make the selection in early 2006.

The CEV is expected to carry up to six astronauts beyond low-Earth orbit soon after the Space Shuttle is retired in 2010, and then on to the moon as early as 2015. The CEV is a key element of the nation's Vision for Space Exploration, which returns human explorers to the moon, Mars and beyond.

Over 20 years, the space shuttle has launched 3 million pounds of cargo, transported more than 600 passengers and pilots, cumulatively spent more than three years in flight and traveled more than 366 million miles.

Information about the STS-114 mission (<http://www.nasa.gov/returntoflight>) is available at the NASA Web site.

*(The Washington File is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>) ♦*



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## AIDS Linked to National Security . . .

*(Continued from page 17)*

nology now allows scientists in many cases to pinpoint the evolutionary trajectories of various HIV strains as well as their movement around the world.

"We can actually show a state origin of a whole host of different strains of HIV, particularly in Asia," Garrett continued. "With the exception of one serious outbreak in China, virtually all of the strains of HIV circulating in Asia -- from India to Vietnam, from mid-China to Indonesia come from a single country ... Burma. We can document the actual routes of transmission."

The report's recommendations include:

Use of viral genetic fingerprinting to trace the spread of HIV and identify key states or forces, such as heroin smuggling, associated with

spreading HIV;

Education of all uniformed services personnel, including police, about the risks and prevention of HIV; and

Much greater support from government and academic institutions for analysis of the social, political and economic impacts of the pandemic.

The report was released on the fifth anniversary of the landmark U. N. Security Council resolution addressing the threat HIV/AIDS poses to the security of nations, especially those in conflict.

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## Scientists Improve Nutrition Value of Critical . . .

*(Continued from page 18)*

fourth most important crop in the world, and relatively easy to grow in drought conditions. The plant's starchy root is a substantial portion of the diet of nearly 700 million people worldwide.

But cassava roots are low in protein and several micronutrients.

Team researchers will be developing cassava plants that have increased levels of zinc, iron, protein and vitamins A and E, plus longer shelf life and resistance to geminivirus. Danforth Center principal investigators Claude Fauquet, a

cassava expert, and Daniel Schachtman, an expert in mineral nutrition, are other key participants in the project.

Once cassava varieties with higher vitamin A and E levels have been developed in the United States, they will be grown and tested for production and nutrient content under field conditions in Africa. Then the successful cassava cultivars will be released to breeding programs to be incorporated into finished varieties.

ARS is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific re-

search agency.

(end text)

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